

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SCCT-01

/050 W

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R 281141Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 807

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 026

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: VIOLENCE RETURNS

1. SINCE CEASEFIRE ENDED JAN. 16 THERE SOME 42 BOMBING INCIDENTS, 38 SHOOTING INCIDENTS AND 20 ARREST FOR TERRORIST-TYPE ACTIVITIES IN PROVINCE. AT LEAST HALF OF THESE ARRESTS WERE OF INDIVIDUALS CAUGHT IN THE ACT. MOST BOMBING INCIDENTS UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS OR SMALL BOMBS IN SOFT TARGETS. LONDONDERRY CITY CENTER HIT BY THREE BOMBS JAN. 27 IN WHAT BELIEVED TO BE PROVISIONAL REACTION TO MASSIVE PEACE DEMONSTRATIONS OVER PAST WEEKEND. THOSE BOMBS PLACED IN PROMIXITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS OR DIRECTED AGAINST ARMY PERSONNEL MOSTLY EITHER DEFUSED BY EXPERTS OR EXPLODED HARMLESSLY. HUMAN TOLL AS OF JAN. 28, THREE PROVISIONAL IRA MEN KILLED, ONE 7 YEAR OLD CATHOLIC AND ONE 16 YEAR OLD PROTESTANT KILLED BY LANDMINE AND BOOBY TRAP BOMB RESPECTIVELY. PROVISIONAL IRA NOT RPT NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL SHOOTING INCIDENTS. SOME KNEE CAPPINGS AND PUNISHMENT SHOOTINGS APPEAR BE OFFICIAL IRA ACTIONS AGAINST DEFECTORS TO IRISH REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST PARTY (AIRGRAM FOLLOWS). THREE CATHOLIC WORKMEN FIRED UPON EARLY JAN. 27 FROM PASSING STOLEN CAR IN INCIDENT THAT COULD SIGNAL REVIVAL SECTARIAN ASSASSINATIONS.

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2. FROM BELFAST PERSPECTIVE THERE APPEARS BE CONSIDERABLE
DISARRAY AMONG PROVISIONAL IRA. PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN
SPOKESMEN AND NEWSPAPER REPUBLICAN AREAS REPORT VARIOUSLY THAT
DECISION TAKEN RENEW CEASEFIRE AND THAT CEASEFIRE RENEWAL
THREATENED BY PROVOCATIVE ACTS BRITISH ARMY, OR ACTION SECURITY
FORCES OR UNYIELDING ATTITUDE PART DUBLIN GOVERNMENT TOWARD
FASTING "POLITICAL" PRISONERS IN REPUBLIC. BOMBS IN LONDONDERRY
SHOPS, PUBLIC TOILETS AND IN SHED IN SCHOOLYARD THAT KILLED 16
YEAR OLD NOT RPT NOT CONSIDERED CONVINCING DEMONSTRATIONS OF
CONTINUING PROVISIONAL STRENGTH. RELATIVE INEFFECTUALTY CURRENT
IRA CAMPAIGN AND DEMONSTRATED DESIRE FOR PEACE PART CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY BELIEVED FACTORS RESTRAINING PROTESTANT PARA-MILITARY
GROUPS FROM JOINING.
SPICER

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NNN

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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